

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TIME ZONE FOR GUAM AND THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate now proceed to the consideration of H.R. 3756 which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3756) to establish a standard time zone for Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and for other purposes.

There being objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 3756) was read the third time and passed.

AMENDMENT TO TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate turn to the consideration of H.R. 207, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 207) to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide that physicians comparability allowances pay for retirement purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 207) was read the third time and passed.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF GWENDOLYN BROOKS

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 393 introduced earlier today by Senator DURBIN and Senator FITZGERALD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 393) commemorating the life of Gwendolyn Brooks of Chicago, Illinois, poet laureate of Illinois since 1968.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution and preamble be agreed to en bloc, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table with no intervening action, and that any statements relating thereto be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 393) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution with its preamble reads as follows:

S. RES. 393

Whereas Gwendolyn Brooks was born in Topeka, Kansas, on June 7, 1917, and moved one month thereafter to the South Side of Chicago;

Whereas Gwendolyn Brooks was educated in the Chicago public school system, graduating from Englewood High School in 1934;

Whereas Gwendolyn Brooks was the author of over twenty works of poetry spanning 46 years;

Whereas Gwendolyn Brooks in 1950 became the first African-American woman to win the Pulitzer Prize for poetry with her publication, *Annie Allen*;

Whereas Gwendolyn Brooks was showered with numerous other accolades as a poet and artist, including a lifetime achievement award from the National Endowment for the Arts;

Whereas Gwendolyn Brooks has been poet laureate of Illinois since 1968, succeeding the late Carl Sandburg;

Whereas Gwendolyn Brooks leveraged her prestige as Illinois poet laureate to inspire young writers, establishing the Illinois Poet Laureate Awards in 1969 to encourage elementary and high school students to write;

Whereas Gwendolyn Brooks taught future poets and writers at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, the City College of New York, Columbia College of Chicago, Northwestern Illinois University, Elmhurst College, and Chicago State University; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commemorates the life of Gwendolyn Brooks and celebrates the accomplishments she made not just to the State of Illinois, but to the entire United States of America as a poet and artist; and

(2) extends its deepest sympathies to her daughter Nora and son Henry.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—H.R. 3549

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate receives from the House H.R. 3549 regarding the repeal of the modification of the installment method, the bill be read the third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table. I further ask consent that the above occur with no intervening action or debate, and I further ask consent this agreement be vitiated if the text is different than that which is now at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

APPOINTMENT

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the appointment that is at the desk appear sepa-

rately in the RECORD as if made by the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, pursuant to Public Law 106-291, announces the appointment of the following individuals to the Advisory Committee on Forest Counties Payments: Tim Creal, of South Dakota; Doug Robertson, of Oregon.

AUTHORIZATION TO SIGN DULY ENROLLED BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the majority leader or Senator ABRAHAM be authorized to sign all duly enrolled bills and resolutions following the sine die adjournment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AUTHORIZATION TO MAKE APPOINTMENTS

Mr. STEVENS. I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the sine die adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President of the Senate pro tempore, and the majority and minority leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate.

Mr. REID. Reserving the right to object, I have waited around this afternoon, this evening, to have an opportunity to direct a few comments to the Senator from Alaska. I say to my friend from Alaska, I remember about a year ago at this time the Senator from Alaska gave me as a token of recognition a Tasmanian devil tie.

Now, coming from Senator STEVENS, who has such a record in the Senate, that meant a lot to me. In celebration of our ending the session today, I wore this tie. I say this because in all sincerity it meant a lot to me when Senator STEVENS gave me this tie. You have been a role model for me since I came to Washington almost 20 years ago. You have a record that is unsurpassed for doing good things for your State as well as being an effective leader. I have served with the Senator from Alaska my entire time in the Senate on the Appropriations Committee, and I have admired the work done. I respected the tenacity shown, often for the people of the State of Alaska and other causes for which he believes.

I wish to publicly state how appreciative I am of this token, this honor the Senator gave me.

Mr. STEVENS. I am overwhelmed by that statement and my good friend. I noticed the Tasmanian devil tie. I enjoy those ties, and I hope the Senator enjoys his. I certainly enjoy our association.

I served as whip for 8 years. I know the distinguished Senator from Nevada